

**Amendments to the Specification**

Please replace the title, at page 1, lines 1-2, with the following rewritten title:

~~Methods and compositions for poly-beta-1-4-N-acetylglucosamine cell therapy system~~

Biocompatible Poly- $\beta$ -1 $\rightarrow$ 4-N-Acetylglucosamine

Please insert the following new paragraph at page 1, line 3:

This is a continuation of application no. 09/866,827 filed May 29, 2001, which is a continuation of application no. 09/227,840, filed January 11, 1999, which is a division of application no. 08/471,290, filed June 6, 1995, now issued as U.S. Patent No. 5,858,350, which is a continuation-in-part of application no. 08/437,911, filed December 1, 1994, now issued as U.S. Patent No. 5,623,064, which is a continuation-in-part of application no. 08/160,569, filed December 1, 1993, now issued as U.S. Patent No. 5,622,834, the entire contents of each of which are incorporated herein by reference in their entirety.